

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

On page 4, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 5 and ending on line 7 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 6 shows an alignment of human KIA1872 (SEQ ID NO:5), macaque (SEQ ID NO:6), mouse jittery (SEQ ID NO:7), human NIP2 (SEQ ID ~~NO:8~~ NO:26), and mouse NIP2 (SEQ ID ~~NO:9~~ NO:27) polypeptides.

On page 4, please replace the paragraph beginning on line 19 and ending on line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 13 (SEQ ID NOS:14-21) shows a sequence alignment of predicted ATCAY protein sequences with related genes across species.

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On page 4, please replace the paragraph beginning on line ²⁶~~25~~ and ending on page 5, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

As used herein, the term "Cayman ataxia" or "~~Cayman ataxia~~" when used in reference to a protein or nucleic acid refers to a protein or nucleic acid encoding a protein that, in some mutant forms, is correlated with ataxia. The term Cayman ataxia encompasses both proteins that are identical to wild-type Cayman ataxia and those that are derived from wild type Cayman ataxia (*e.g.*, variants of Cayman ataxia or chimeric genes constructed with portions of Cayman ataxia coding regions). In some embodiments, the "Cayman ataxia" is the wild type nucleic acid (SEQ ID NO: 3) or amino acid (SEQ ID NO:4) sequence. In other embodiments, the "Cayman ataxia" is a variant or mutant (*e.g.*, including, but not limited to, variants resulting in disease).

On page 88, please replace the paragraphs beginning on line 22 and ending on page 89, line 8 with the following amended paragraphs:

The KIAA1872 (identified above as the Cayman ataxia protein) protein is a protein of unknown function. According to the predicted proteins found at various genome sites, it isn't even clear what the N-terminal amino acid, *i.e.* start of translation, of the protein is. The sequence of macaque, mouse and human of the predicted protein, and they are highly